



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

JOHN E. NIXON, C.P.A.
Director

PHILLIP JEFFERY
Deputy Director

September 8, 2009

The Honorable Gregory S. Bell, Lieutenant Governor
Utah State Capitol Suite 220
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-2325

Dear Lieutenant Governor:

As required by Utah Code Annotated section 20A-7-202.5 attached is the fiscal impact estimate regarding the proposed law entitled "Government Ethics Reform" *filed on August 12, 2009.*

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely

John E. Nixon
Executive Director, GOPB

Enclosure

Received

SEP 08 2009

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Fiscal Impact Statement for **"Government Ethics Reform"** *filed on August 12, 2009.*

The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget estimates that the law proposed by this initiative would result in a total fiscal expense of \$536,000 general fund.

Implementation of changes prescribed by the petition requires \$36,000 one-time for the Lt. Governor's Office for production and dissemination of the voter information pamphlet, \$400,000 to cover costs associated with staffing the commission and an estimated \$100,000 for legal defense.

The costs associated with legal defense are highly variable. It is unknown how many complaints will be filed and the cost of legal counsel. This Act provides "any such legislator who desires to retain counsel may select any attorney or law firm. The reasonable fees of any such law firm, including other costs of such representation, shall be paid out of funds allocated to the office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, and this payment shall be made whether or not the legislator is acquitted of the charges of misconduct."